

1. (Currently Amended) An electrical interconnection arrangement comprising

~~a circuit board (20) having at least one conductor path (22) applied thereon;~~

~~an electrical conductor (66) adapted to transport current to and from said circuit board;~~

a generally three-dimensional contact element (44; 80) having a base part (46; 82) facing said circuit board and having a predetermined footprint;

an electrical conductor path (22) applied to said circuit board and adapted to the shape of said footprint;

a solder connection (74) extending between said conductor path (22) and said contact element (44; 80);

~~wherein the circuit board (20) has~~
passthrough ~~orifices~~ openings (24, 26, 28, 30, 32) located within a perimeter defined by edges of said conductor path (22);
metallized portions provided at
at least one end of said passthrough openings (24, 26, 28, 30, 32);

feet (34, 36, 38, 40, 42; 88, 90, 92, 94) provided on said contact element (44; 80), said feet being redirected by bending to match associated passthrough openings, and pressed into these associated passthrough openings;

solder connections between said pressed-in feet and said associated metallized portions;

~~the contact element (44; 80) has a contact tongue (54; 96) that is resiliently articulated on said base part (46; 82) and is adapted both to mechanically engage with and to electrically contact the~~ forming an insertion opening (64) between said contact tongue (54; 96) and said base part (46; 82) for insertion of
an electrical conductor (66) into said insertion opening (64)
and for connecting it to said contact element (44; 80).

2. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein

at least one lateral guidance member (70, 72) ~~for the~~
~~electrical conductor (66)~~ is provided on the contact element (44).

3. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the lateral guidance member (70, 72) is implemented integrally with the base part (46).

4. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein

said feet each have an attachment end adjacent said contact element, and a free end remote from said contact element, and

at least some of the feet (34 to 42) have a reduced width (39) adjacent the free end (38) thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising an

~~the~~ electrical conductor (66) ~~is~~ engaged between the contact tongue (54) and the base part (46) and ~~is~~ connected, by means of a welded connection (76, 78), to at least one element of a set defined by the base part (46) and the contact tongue (54).

6. (Original) The arrangement according to claim 5, wherein the welded connection (76, 78) is produced by laser welding.

7. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein the electrical conductor (66) is a flat conductor.

8. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein

the ~~flat~~ electrical conductor (66) is configured for mechanical latching with the contact tongue (54; 96).

9. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 8, wherein

the contact tongue (54; 96) comprises a projection (97), and the ~~flat~~ electrical conductor (66) is equipped with a recess for engagement of that projection.

10. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein

the contact element (44; 80) is equipped with at least one orifice (49) that defines a reservoir adapted to receive solder paste.

11. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 10, wherein

the at least one orifice (49) is located in a region of the contact element (44; 80) adapted to be connected by planar solder joining to said conductor path (22) on said board.

12. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein

at least one portion of said contact element (44) is configured to rest snugly against said circuit board (20) while at least one of said feet (34', 40') has a major axis at an angle to said circuit board (20), thereby creating a bending radius at a connection between said foot and said contact element portion, and wherein

a bowed segment (59) is provided at said connection, thereby defining a clearance between said segment and said board.

13. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein said bowed segment (59), between said contact element portion and said at least one foot, is sufficiently bowed to completely reverse direction.

14. (Currently Amended) The arrangement according to claim 1, wherein

said contact tongue (54) is mechanically biased to clamp said electrical conductor (66) between said base part (46) and said tongue (54).

15. (Canceled)